

## NEW DESCRIPTIONS

### FIRST RECORD OF THE GENUS *LAURENTINA* MALAISE (HYMENOPTERA : TENTHREDINIDAE) FROM INDIA, WITH DESCRIPTION OF A NEW SPECIES<sup>1</sup>

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(With two text-figures)

Two species of *Laurentina* Malaise, viz. *L. birmanica* Malaise, 1937 and *L. sarchuckensis* sp. nov. are recorded from India. In addition to a key to the so far known species of this genus, female lancets of the Indian species are illustrated.

#### INTRODUCTION

Based on three species from Burma, Malaise (1937) proposed *Laurentina* as a sub-genus of *Laurentia*. In a succeeding comprehensive work (Malaise 1945) he raised it to the generic level with the following combination of characters: anterior margin of clypeus truncate, hind femur shorter than tibia and reaching apex of abdomen, mesopleuron minutely rugose with sebaceous lustre, scutellar appendage polished and the anal cell with a short cross vein placed in the basal half.

Takeuchi (1952) in his work on Japanese genera of Tenthredinidae, synonymised this genus with *Aglaostigma*. However, we feel that as the species of the genus *Laurentina* possess a hind femur that reaches the tip of the abdomen, a character missing in *Aglaostigma*, *Laurentina* should be retained as a distinct genus as characterised by Malaise (1945).

In the present studies two species of this genus are recorded from the eastern Himalayas. One of the species is *L. birmanica* Malaise while the other is new. Apart from describing the new species, the detailed description of *L. birmanica* has been rewritten as the available account is insufficient. The holotype of *L. sarchuckensis* sp. nov. will be deposited with the Pusa National Collection, IARI, New Delhi. Regd. No. L-157/RIT.

**Abbreviations:** EL – eye length; IDMO – interocular distance at level of median ocellus; LID – lower interocular distance; OCL – ocello-occipital line; OOL – oculo-ocellar line; POL – post-ocellar line.

#### *Laurentina sarchuckensis* sp. nov.

**FEMALE:** Length, 8.6 mm. Body black. Labrum, lateral spot on clypeus, medial spot on supra-clypeal area, small spot at tip of supra-antennal tubercle, narrow stripe along inner orbit, stripe on hind orbit, narrow posterior margin of pronotum, spot on tegula and metepimeron yellowish brown. Legs reddish brown. Coxae, trochanters, extreme bases of femora and apex of hind tibia black. Wings yellowish, hyaline, stigma and venation brown, costa fulvous.

Antenna 2.8x head width, segments 3 and 4 in ratio 7:6. Labrum broader than long with roundly pointed anterior margin. Malar space equal to diameter of median ocellus. LID:IDMO:EL = 2.0:2.6:1.5. OOL:POL:OCL = 2.7:1.0:1.5. Frontal area at level of eyes. Supra-antennal tubercle raised and merging with low frontal ridge. Median fovea like a broad depression, not reaching median ocellus. Circumocellar furrow deep, long and obliquely cutting across frontal ridge. Inter- and post-ocellar furrows sharp. Lateral furrows broad and sunken. Postocellar area flat, broader than long in ratio 2:1. Head narrowing behind eyes. Mesoscutellum flat. Appendage faintly carinate. Seams of mesonotum fine and not sunken. Subapical tooth of claw stronger and subequal to apical one.

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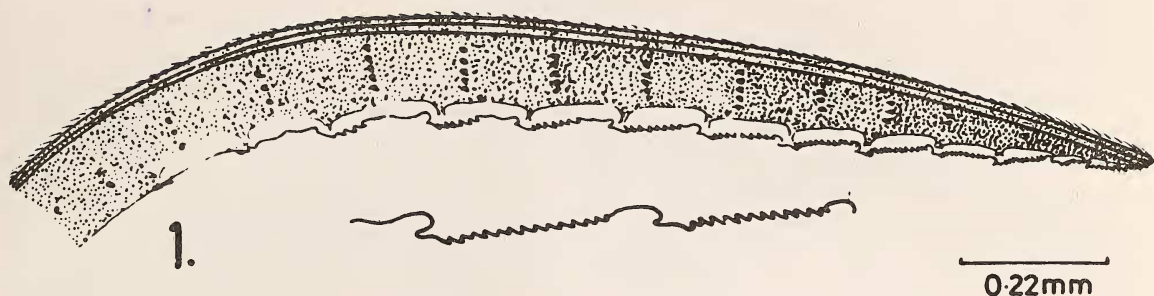


Fig. 1. Lancet of *L. sarchuckensis* sp. nov.

Metabasitarsus shorter than following tarsal joints combined.

Head rugose, hind orbit strongly microsculptured with scattered but distinct punctures. Mesonotum microsculptured with deep punctures along seams. Mesoscutellum with deep and distinct punctures on posterior slope only. Abdomen microstriated. Lancet as in Fig. 1.

**Holotype:** Female, Sikkim, Sarchuck, 2400 m. 22 May 1988.

The new species is closely related to *L. uncinata* Malaise, 1937, but can easily be distinguished from the latter as shown in the key.

**Etymology:** The species name has been taken from the type locality.

#### *Laurentina birmanica* Malaise

**FEMALE:** Length 9.0 mm. Body black. Labrum, small lateral spot on clypeus, medial

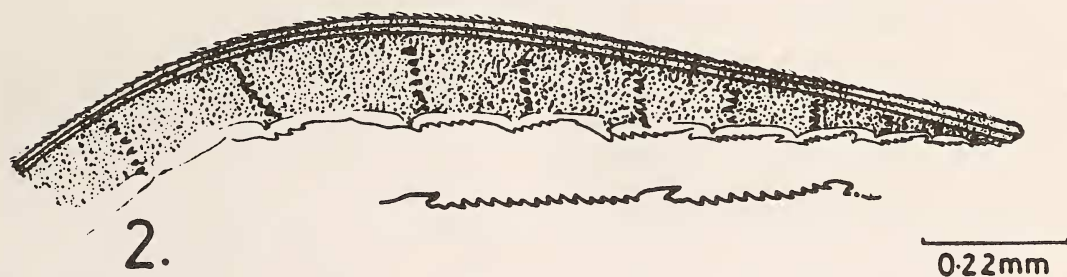


Fig. 2. Lancet of *L. birmanica* Malaise.

spot on supraclypeal area, narrow stripe along inner orbit continuous over temple and curving downwards along hind orbit without touching eye, narrow margin of pronotum, appendage of metepimeron, small outer spot on meso- and metacoxae white. Abdomen beyond segment 2 except sawsheath, pro- and mesolegs except coxae, trochanters and extreme bases of femora, metaleg except coxa reddish brown. Wings clear, front one yellowish hyaline, stigma and venation brown.

Antenna 2.7x head width, segments 3 and 4 in ratio 7:6. Labrum broader than long with roundly pointed anterior margin. Malar space 1.2x diameter of median ocellus. LID:IDMO:EL = 2.0:2.4:1.5. OOL:POL:OCL = 3.1:1.0:2.0. Frontal area elevated above level of eyes. Supra-antennal tubercle raised and confluent with frontal ridge. Median fovea narrow, ditch-like,

hardly reaching median ocellus. Circum-, inter- and post ocellar furrows clear. Lateral furrows excurved and sunken. Postocellar area flat, broader than long in ratio 2:1 with deep median longitudinal furrow. Head parallel behind eyes. Mesoscutellum hardly raised. Appendage with sharp carina. Seams of mesonotum broad and sunken. Subapical tooth of claw stronger and slightly longer than apical one. Metabasitarsus shorter than following tarsal joints combined.

Head appearing wrinkled due to large, shallow and confluent punctures, hind orbit minutely and densely punctured. Mesonotum minutely punctured with strong microsculpture at apex of middle lobe. Mesoscutellum with distinct punctures on posterior slope. Appendage polished. Mesepisternum strongly wrinkled. Mesosternum minutely and densely punctured. Appendage of metepisternum polished. Abdomen microstriated, propodeum more strongly so. Lancet as in Fig. 2.

**Material examined:** 3 females, Arunachal Pradesh, Bomdila, 2700 m, 1 May 1989.

KEY TO THE KNOWN SPECIES OF *Laurentina* MALAISE

1. Hind wing with one closed middle cell in female. Mesonotum shining with scattered minute punctures. Seams of mesonotum broad and sunken. Lancet as in Fig. 2 ..... *L. birmanica* Malaise  
Hind-wing with two closed middle cells in female. Mesonotum densely punctured or microsculptured. Seams of mesonotum fine and not sunken ..... 2
2. General colour reddish with few black markings. Head dilated behind eyes in female ... *L. ruficornis* Malaise  
— General colour black with few reddish markings. Head narrowing behind eyes ..... 3
3. Tergum 4 pale yellow. Postocellar area subconvex. Subapical tooth of claw longer than apical one ..... *L. uncinata* Malaise  
— Abdomen entirely black. Postocellar area flat. Subapical tooth of claw shorter than apical one. Lancet as in Fig. 1 ..... *L. sarchuckensis* sp. nov.

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*OSTEOBRAMA BHIMENSIS*, A NEW CYPRINID FISH FROM BHIMA RIVER, PUNE DISTRICT, MAHARASHTRA<sup>1</sup>

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(With two text-figures)

A few specimens of the Indo-Burmese genus *Osteobrama* Heckel were collected from the reservoir at Ujani on the river Bhima about 98 km from Pune. These proved on examination and detailed comparison with the related species, *Osteobrama cotio* (Ham.), to be a new species which is described here.

Day (1939) recorded seven species under the genus *Rohitee* from the Indian subcontinent, namely

*R. bakeri* Day, *R. neilli*, *R. cotio* (Ham.), *R. vigorsii* Sykes, *R. belangeri* (Cuv. & Val.), *R. ogilbii* Sykes and *R. cunma* (Tickell). Of these, only *R. ogilbii* is now retained under *Rohitee* whereas the rest are now assigned to *Osteobrama*. Among them, *O. cotio*, a widely distributed species is known by two subspecies viz., *O. cotio cotio* (Ham.) from north India and Assam and *O. cotio cunma* (Day) from Burma and Pune (Jayaram 1981).

Bhima, the major river of Pune district, is an important tributary of the Krishna river system. A dam constructed on the river at Ujani has given rise

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